

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
 POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
 Ambleside Rd & Kedvale Ave IL Hg Spills Site - Removal Polrep
 Initial Removal Polrep

US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



467229



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
 Region V**

Subject: POLREP #1
 Initial
 Ambleside Rd & Kedvale Ave IL Hg Spills Site

DesPlaines, IL
 Latitude: 42.0381750 Longitude: -87.9321750

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From: Anita L. Boseman, On-Scene Coordinator

Date: 10/15/2014

Reporting Period: 10/10-15/2015

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	Contract Number:	
D.O. Number:	Action Memo Date:	
Response Authority: CERCLA	Response Type:	Emergency
Response Lead: EPA	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status: Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date: 10/10/2014	Start Date:	10/10/2014
Demob Date:	Completion Date:	

CERCLIS ID:

RCRIS ID:

ERNS No.:

State Notification: IL EPA

FPN#:

Reimbursable Account #:

1.1.1 Incident Category

Time-Critical Emergency Removal - CERCLA. Mercury spill clean-up in a residence.

1.1.2 Site Description

There are two residential properties, OU1 is located in Des Plaines, IL and is in a residential area, OU2 is located in Chicago, IL (Old Irving Neighborhood) and is also in a residential area.

1.1.2.1 Location

Ambleside Road, Des Plaines, IL and Kedvale Ave, Chicago, IL

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

On October 10, 2014, the Illinois Department of Health () requested assistance from the EPA for a mercury spill at two residential locations. The residents indicated that sometime in August a blood pressure gauge broke which contained elemental mercury. The residents did not realize that mercury had spilled from the gauge until they moved from Kedvale Ave to Ambleside Rd. Upon unloading boxes into the house on Ambleside Rd they observed elemental mercury in boxes and on the carpet. They threw out the boxes which contained elemental and vacuumed the elemental seen on the carpet. They then went to a physician to get their mercury levels tested and informed him of the situation. The physician then called the IDLH which in turn called the EPA to respond to the spill.

The threat was from a broken blood pressure gauge which contained a source of elemental mercury. According to the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry the nervous system is sensitive to metallic mercury. Exposure to very high levels of metallic mercury vapor can cause brain, kidney, and lung damage and may seriously harm a developing fetus. Exposure to mercury vapor concentrations high enough to produce such serious effects might also cause coughing, chest pains, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, increases in blood pressure or heart rate, skin rashes, and eye irritation. Exposure to lower levels of airborne mercury for prolonged periods of time would produce more subtle effects, such as irritability, sleep disturbances, excessive shyness, tremors, coordination problems, changes in vision or hearing, and memory problems.

Both residents had slightly elevated levels of mercury in their urine but not at any level of concern. The female resident is pregnant and according to the ATSDR is a sensitive population to mercury.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

Refer to the Initial and Second Polreps for the Preliminary Removal Assessment / Site Inspection Results. Please refer to Action Levels outlined in the Joint EPA / ATSDR Chemical Specific Health Consultation for Action Levels for Elemental Mercury Spills. The web address to the document is located in Section 7 - Situational Reference Materials of the Polrep.

2. Current Activities**2.1 Operations Section**

No information available at this time.

2.2 Planning Section

No information available at this time.

2.3 Logistics Section

No information available at this time.

2.4 Finance Section

No information available at this time.

2.5 Other Command Staff

No information available at this time.

3. Participating Entities

No information available at this time.

4. Personnel On Site

No information available at this time.

5. Definition of Terms

No information available at this time.

6. Additional sources of information

No information available at this time.

7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.

